

257214

4.3 Quality Control and Ancillary

There were no faults or failures within this category which resulted in any downtime.

The only degradation of the survey data quality of any kind was the result of the performance of the echo sounder unit. This is and always has been a major problem area with this vessel in any sort of sea state and is thought to be the result of aeration passing over the face of the transducer in heavy sea conditions. This results in the loss of digital tracking and water depths recording then becomes reliant on an analogue chart.

The inspection of monthly tests results and all daily tests showed no major instrument problems, and it is worth commenting that the contractor's personnel are now paying more and more attention to the instrument test results and their implications on the survey.

One especially nice output is the single trace section generated by the C ITOH plotter. This provides a very precise and generally clean quality control indicator on a shot to shot basis and tied with the multiple trace shot records taken periodically, gives good overall indication of data quality.